

### REMARKS

This is a full and complete response to the Office action dated September 19, 2007.

All comments and remarks of record are herein incorporated by reference. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections and all comments made in the Office Action. Nevertheless, in an effort to expedite prosecution, Applicants provide the following remarks regarding the cited references.

### DISPOSITION OF CLAIMS

Claims 16-17, 19-21, and 23-25 are pending in the application. Applicants have cancelled claims 14-15 without waiver or prejudice and hereby reserve the right to re-assert the subject matter of said claims in this application or continuation. No new matter has been added.

The Examiner noted in the Office Action that the amendments filed on July 11, 2007 were not underlined for the portions added to the amended claims. Applicants respectfully submit that the amendment filed July 11, 2007 was a supplemental reply under 37 CFR 111(a)(2)(E) to correct certain typographical errors, and thus was made relative to the amendment filed on July 10, 2007. Both amendments included proper underlining and strikethrough as required under 37 CFR 121.

### REJECTION UNDER 102

Claims 14 and 15 stand rejected under 35 USC §102 as being anticipated by **Hisakazu** (JP-2000-327387). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Applicants have canceled claims 14 and 15 thereby obviating this rejection. Favorable action is therefore solicited.

ALLOWABLE CLAIMS

The Examiner indicated that claims 16-17, 19-21, and 23-25 are allowed. As claims 14-15 have been canceled, Applicants respectfully assert that all of the pending claims are in allowable condition.

In order to facilitate the resolution of any issues or questions presented by this paper, the Examiner is invited to directly contact the undersigned by phone to further the discussion.

The undersigned representative requests any extension of time that may be deemed necessary to further the prosecution of this application.

The undersigned representative authorizes the Commissioner to charge any additional fees under 37 C.F.R. 1.16 or 1.17 that may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 14-1437.

**Conclusion**

Having addressed all issues set out in the Office action, Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance and respectfully request that the claims be allowed.

Respectfully submitted,  
NOVAK DRUCE & QUIGG, LLP

/Jason W. Bryan/  
Jason W. Bryan  
Reg. No. 51,505

Jason.Bryan@novakdruce.com  
1000 Louisiana Ave  
53<sup>rd</sup> floor  
Houston, Texas 77002  
T: 713-571-3400  
F: 713-456-2836